QUIT BEEFIN', CHAMP. YOU'RE DOIN' ALL RIGHT
YEAH?
11-1

GEE, I'LL BET HE'S HANDSOME!
HE LOOKS SO INTERESTING!
MASKED MARVEL
HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPION of BARTINA
FIGHTS NEXT SAT.
CARTA ARENA

HI, BABIES
HMM~~
HMM~~
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

SEE WHUT I MEAN, JOE? I'M DE CHAMP, AND NOBUDDY KNOWS ME!
YOU'RE GETTIN RICH! WHO CARES?
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

I'M SICK O' DIS MASKED-MARVEL STUFF, JOE! HERE I AM, DE CHAMP! I WALKS DOWN DE STREET. NOBUDDY KNOWS IT'S ME!
FORGET IT. YOU GOT A BIG FIGHT UP NORTH TOMORROW NIGHT. WE GOT A SPECIAL CHARTERED PLANE
MASKED MARVEL
HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPION of BARTINA
FIGHTS NEXT SAT.
CARTA ARENA
11-2
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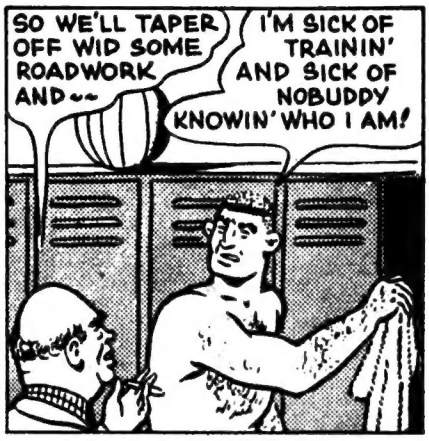
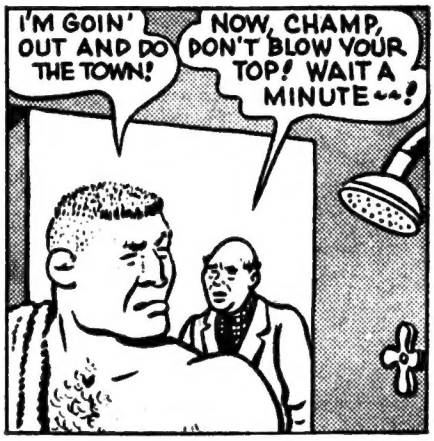

SO WE'LL TAPER OFF WID SOME ROADWORK AND~~
I'M SICK OF TRAININ' AND SICK OF NOBUDDY KNOWIN' WHO I AM!


I'M GOIN' OUT AND DO THE TOWN!
NOW, CHAMP, DON'T BLOW YOUR TOP! WAIT A MINUTE~~!

CUT THE COMEDY, WILL YOU, CHAMP? YOU CAN'T BREAK TRAININ'!
LEGGO ME, OR I'LL BREAK YOU!
CAFE
11-3

FILL UP DE BIGGEST GLASS IN DE HOUSE!
THINK YOU CAN HANDLE IT?

HANDLE IT? KNOW WHO DAT IS? DAT'S ME!
WELL, WELL.
CHAMPION of BARTINA
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

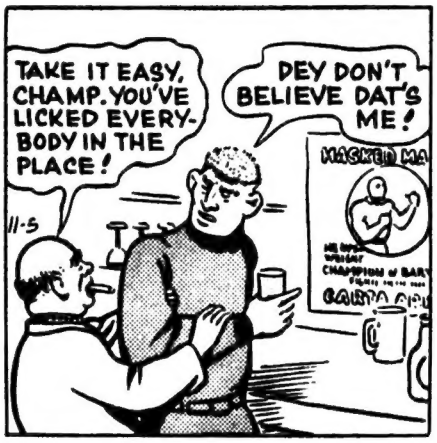
I TELL YA, DAT'S ME!
OKAY, OKAY! I BELIEVE YOU! GOOD LIKENESS, TOO!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

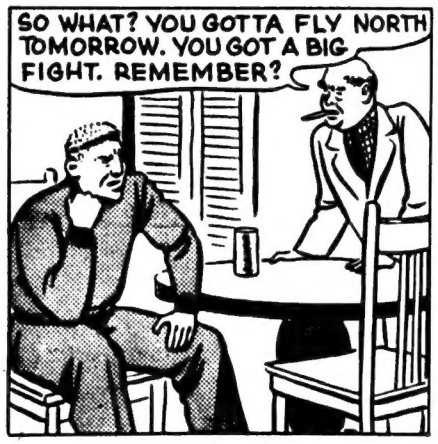
DAT'S ME, SEE! I'M DE CHAMP, DE MASKED MARVEL!
REALLY?
MASKED MARVEL

YEAH, REALLY!
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

MEANWHILE, THE PHANTOM AND DIANA--
I'M STARVED! CAN WE GET SOMETHING TO EAT BEFORE I MAKE MY PHONE CALL?
OF COURSE, DIANA. DRIVER--
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I'LL GET SOME SANDWICHES AND MILK. BE RIGHT BACK.
CAFE
11-4


TAKE IT EASY, CHAMP. YOU'VE LICKED EVERY-BODY IN THE PLACE!
DEY DON'T BELIEVE DAT'S ME!
11-5


SO WHAT? YOU GOTTA FLY NORTH TOMORROW. YOU GOT A BIG FIGHT. REMEMBER?

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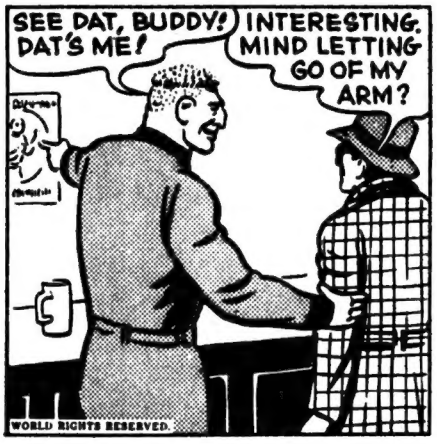
SEE DAT, BUDDY! DAT'S ME!
INTERESTING. MIND LETTING GO OF MY ARM?
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

AIN'T YOU KINDA HOT IN THAT COAT, BUDDY?
SOME SANDWICHES AND MILK, PLEASE.
11-6

THE PHANTOM IGNORES THE BELLIGERENT CHAMP--
HO-HO. MILK! THAT'S A GOOD ONE! DOES YOUR MOMMA KNOW YOU'RE OUT, KIDDY!

MILK - DAT'S FOR CATS - AND BABIES.
HEY---
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

WANNA MAKE SOMETHIN' OUT OF IT?
YES, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I BELIEVE I DO.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

GIMME ROOM! I'M GONNA MOP UP DE JOINT WID DAT MILK-DRINKER!
11-8

BEAT IT, PAL. HE REALLY IS THE MASKED MARVEL, THE CHAMP. I'M HIS MANAGER. HE'LL MOIDER YOU!

CHAMP, WILL YA CUT IT OUT ~~~
NOW, YA LILY-FACED MILK-DRINKER~~
COPR. 1938, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

THERE IS A SUDDEN EXPLOSION ~~A CHAIN REACTION FROM JAW TO BRAIN ~ THEN A BLACK-OUT!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

MIGOSH ~ HE'S KNOCKED OUT! WITH ONE PUNCH!
11-9

NOW MY MILK AND SANDWICHES, PLEASE. HOW MUCH?
ON THE HOUSE, PAL! HE WAS GETTIN' TO BE A PROBLEM.
COPR. 1938, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

YOU KNOCKED OUT THE CHAMP! WHO ARE YOU?
JUST A MILK-DRINKER.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

ADVISE YOUR FRIEND, WHEN HE WAKES UP, TO TRY MILK. IT'S A GREAT BODYBUILDER.

WHAT KEPT YOU SO LONG?
I HAD TO EXPLAIN THE BENEFITS OF MILK TO A FELLOW IN THERE.
CAFE

WHO ~~ SHOT ME?
NOBODY, CHAMP. HE HIT YOU, JUST ONCE.

HE HIT ME WHEN I WASN'T READY! A SNEAK PUNCH! I'LL MOIDER HIM! WHERE IS HE?
COPR. 1938, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

LOOK AT HIM RUNNIN' AWAY! IF I EVER SEE HIM AGAIN~~!
LET'S HOPE YOU DON'T! YOU GOT A FIGHT TO-MORROW! YOU ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT!
11-10
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I MUST PHONE MAMMA RIGHT AWAY. SHE'LL BE WORRIED SICK ABOUT ME, AFTER ALL THAT PIRATE BUSINESS.

THERE'S A ROOM RESERVED AT THE HOTEL FOR YOU, DIANA. I'LL DROP YOU THERE AND GO TO THE AIRPORT FOR TICKETS.
COPR 1948 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

I'LL LONG-DISTANCE MAMMA RIGHT AWAY!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

SORRY, SIR. EVERY FLIGHT IS SOLD OUT FOR A MONTH.
A MONTH? BUT WE HAVE TO GET NORTH! WHAT'LL WE DO?
PLANE tickets
11-11

UNCLE DAVE! THIS IS DIANA. YES, I'M ALL RIGHT. I'M IN BARTENA.
11-12
THANK GOODNESS YOU CALLED! WE'VE WORRIED ABOUT YOU. AND NOW--

--YOUR MOTHER IS SICK, DIANA. VERY SICK! YOU MUST RETURN AT ONCE!
SICK? OH! I WILL! YES, THE VERY FIRST PLANE!

NO LUCK, DIANA. THE PLANES ARE SOLD OUT. A BOAT'LL BE HERE NEXT WEEK--
MAMMA'S SICK! VERY SICK!
COPR 1948 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

A BOAT WILL TAKE A MONTH! IT'LL BE TOO LATE.
WE'LL GO BACK TO THE AIRPORT. THEY'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

WAIT HERE, DARLING. I'LL TRY THE PLANE CLERK FOR A TICKET, AGAIN. MAYBE HE HAS A SINGLE.
AIRPORT CAFE
11-13

I WAS AWAY SO LONG, AND MAMMA WORRIED ABOUT ME. THAT'S WHY SHE'S SO SICK. ALL MY FAULT! NOW I CAN'T GET TO HER---

OUR PRIVATE PLANE'LL BE HERE IN A FEW MINUTES, CHAMP.
HEY, LOOK AT DAT! SOME BABY!
COPR 1948 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

NOW, CHAMP, WE AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME.
DON'T NEED MUCH. I'M A FAST WORKER.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

CHAMP, WE GOT NO TIME!
ALWAYS GOT TIME FOR PRETTY GIRLS!
11-15
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HULLO, BABY. KNOW WHO I AM? DE MASKED MARVEL. DAT'S ME!
AIRPORT CAFE

MIND IF I SET DOWN?
I MOST CERTAINLY DO!

I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT THERE'S NOT A SINGLE SPACE OPEN FOR A MONTH. IF A CANCELLATION TURNS UP--
BUT HER MOTHER'S ILL---
PLANE tickets HERE

AW, CHAMP, CUT IT OUT.
GO AWAY, JOE. FELLA'S GOTTA HAVE A LITTLE FUN--
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WILL YOU PLEASE LEAVE THIS TABLE?!
AW, I LIKE IT HERE.

WELL, I DON'T!
DON'T RUSH OFF. WE AIN'T ACQUAINTED YET. YOU SEE, I'M DE CHAMP--

~DE MASKED MARVEL~BLUB--
LET GO!
11-16

THE ONLY THING DIANA CAN DO IS WAIT A FEW DAYS AND HOPE A TICKET CANCELLATION TURNS UP--
11-17
PLANE tickets HERE
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LET GO OF ME, YOU BIG--
HO-HO! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? DE CHAMPION OF BARTENA! DE MASKED MARVEL--

WILD-CAT! COME ON! JUST A LITTLE KISS!
CHAMP, YOU BLOCKHEAD! CUT IT OUT!

?

COME ON~A LITTLE KISS ~ UH~~
??

AS YOU WERE, BIG BOY!
HEY~~!

AH! I KNOW YOU! DE MILK-DRINKER! DE SNEAK-PUNCHER! I BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YOU~~

THIS TIME I'M READY! NO SNEAK PUNCH! I PUNCH YOU INTO MUSH!
11-18

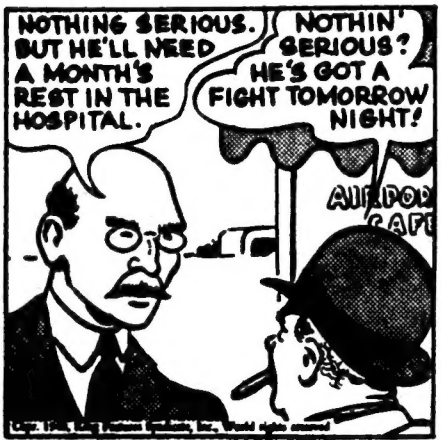
MILK-DRINKER! I'LL~UH~~~

INFURIATED, THE PHANTOM TURNS ON THE POWER~~
UMPH

BOTHER YOU, DID HE? I'LL~
PLEASE, DARLING. IT'S ALL RIGHT. HE DIDN'T DO ANY-THING~~

IT DON'T LOOK LIKE HE'LL DO ANYTHING FOR A MONTH. HE'S COLDER THAN AN ICED HERRING!

WHAT HAPPENED? DID A SAFE FALL ON HIM?
HE RAN INTO A TORNADO. IS HE HURT BAD, DOC?


NOTHING SERIOUS. BUT HE'LL NEED A MONTH'S REST IN THE HOSPITAL.
NOTHIN' SERIOUS? HE'S GOT A FIGHT TOMORROW NIGHT!

WE GOT A BIG MATCH SCHEDULED! OUR PLANE'LL BE HERE ANY MINUTE! THIS IS MOIDER!
MAYBE IT'LL BE A LESSON TO HIM~~

YOU GAVE HIM ONE, ALL RIGHT! I CAN'T LOSE THAT MATCH! LOOK! YOU TAKE HIS PLACE! YOU BE THE MASKED MARVEL!
11-20

YOU BEAT THE MASKED MARVEL TWICE! TAKE HIS PLACE IN THE FIGHT TOMORROW! I'LL PAY YOU FIVE GRAND!
11-22

YOU CAN BE THE MASKED MARVEL. NOBODY'LL KNOW THE DIFFERENCE. THERE'S OUR PLANE NOW! WE'LL BE IN GORGAZA IN A FEW HOURS-

-THE WAY YOU PUNCH THE GORGAZA TIGER'LL BE A CINCH FOR YOU! YOU GOTTA DO THIS FOR ME! WELL, WHAT DO YOU SAY?
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I'LL DO IT- ON ONE CONDITION
DARLING, YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!

DIANA HAS TO GET HOME AT ONCE. HER MOTHER'S ILL, AND SHE CAN'T GET PLANE PASSAGE
I SORRY TO HEAR THAT, MISS--
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

-BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH YOUR TAKING THE MASKED MARVEL'S PLACE?
YOU'VE GOT A PRIVATE PLANE WAITING OUT THERE--
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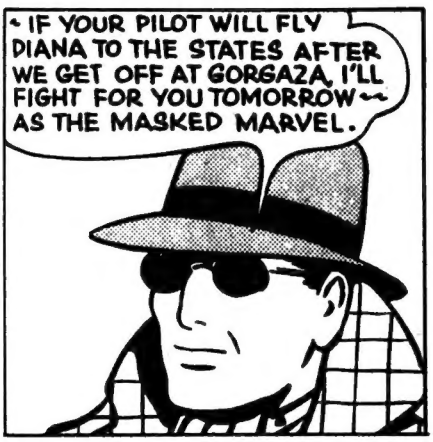
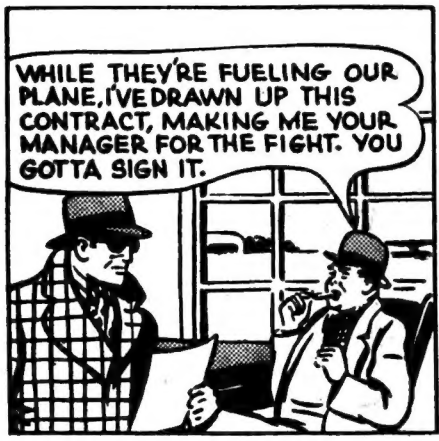

-IF YOUR PILOT WILL FLY DIANA TO THE STATES AFTER WE GET OFF AT GORGAZA, I'LL FIGHT FOR YOU TOMORROW-- AS THE MASKED MARVEL.

THAT'S EASY! OKAY, IT'S A DEAL.
11-23


WHILE THEY'RE FUELING OUR PLANE, I'VE DRAWN UP THIS CONTRACT, MAKING ME YOUR MANAGER FOR THE FIGHT. YOU GOTTA SIGN IT.

HERE'S A PEN- HEY--
I WON'T NEED ONE.

SAY- WHAT IS THIS?
MY SIGNATURE.
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BUT ARE YOU SURE IT'S LEGAL?
YOU HAVE MY WORD.
11-24
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

BUT, DARLING, I HATE THE IDEA OF YOUR FIGHTING~~
IT'S THE ONLY WAY I CAN GET YOU HOME TO YOUR MOTHER, DIANA.

I KNOW, AND IT'S WONDERFUL OF YOU! BUT~ YOU'RE NOT A PRIZE FIGHTER~~
I'LL TRY TO ACT LIKE ONE.

DARNED RIGHT YOU WILL! SAY, THE MASK MAY BOTHER YOU A LITTLE, AT FIRST. BUT YOU'LL GET USED TO IT.
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

MASK? I DON'T THINK IT WILL BOTHER ME.
I'M SURE IT WON'T.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED
11-25

OUR FIRST STOP, GORGAZA. THERE'S WHERE YOU FIGHT TOMORROW.
11-26
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

REMEMBER, YOU'RE THE MASKED MARVEL NOW. IF ANYBODY ASKS QUESTIONS, LET ME DO THE TALKING.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I'LL RUSH HOME TO MAMA NOW, BUT, OH, DARLING, PLEASE BE CAREFUL~
I WILL! KISS MAMA FOR ME, DIANA.

~AND DON'T GET HURT!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM, MISS! WORRY ABOUT THE OTHER GUY.

WHERE'S DIS MASKED MARVEL, SAM?
HIS PLANE JUST ARRIVED FROM BARTENA. HE'LL BE HERE SOON TO WEIGH IN.
11-27

DE TINGS HE'S BEEN SAYIN' ABOUT ME IN DE PAPERS! DAT I GOT A GLASS JAW~DAT I'M A PUSH-OVER!
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

I'LL TEAR HIM IN TWO! I'LL SMASH HIM TO LITTLE PIECES!
TAKE IT EASY, TIGER!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

WHO AM I FIGHTING, JOE?
TIGER TOMA. AN EASYGOIN' LUG. HE'LL BE A PUSH-OVER FOR YOU.

REMEMBER, IF ANYBODY ASKS WHO YOU ARE, YOU'RE THE MASKED MARVEL! HERE'S HIS OUTFIT. TRY IT ON.
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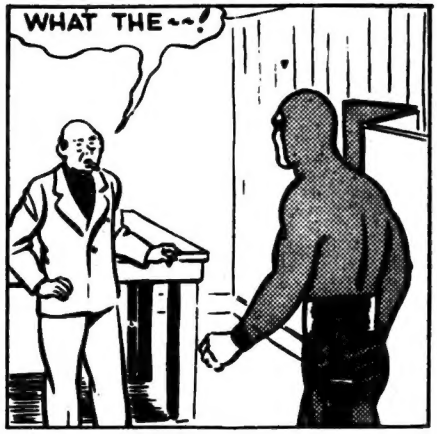
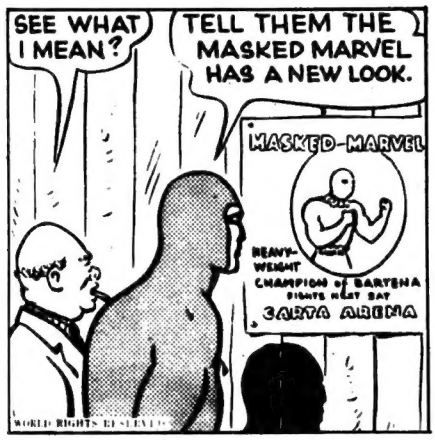
I WON'T NEED IT, JOE. I'VE GOT MY OWN OUTFIT!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

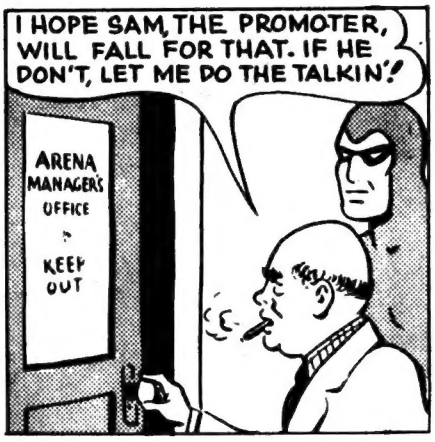

WHAT THE--!

WHO-IN BLAZES ARE YOU?
THE MASKED MARVEL. REMEMBER?
11-29

I'M YOUR MANAGER! YOU GOTTA TELL ME WHO YOU ARE!
NO, I DON'T "GOTTA", JOE.
11-30

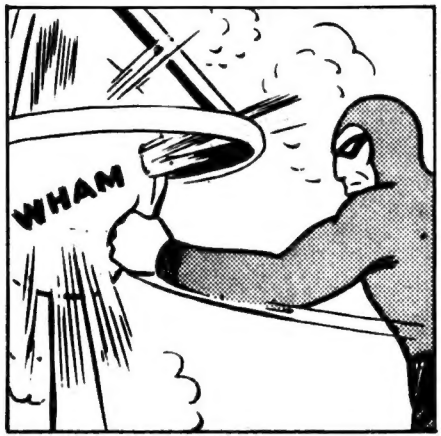
I AGREED TO TAKE THE MASKED MARVEL'S PLACE IN THE FIGHT TOMORROW. I WILL. THAT'S ALL.
BUT YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE HIM IN THAT OUTFIT!


SEE WHAT I MEAN?
TELL THEM THE MASKED MARVEL HAS A NEW LOOK.
MASKED-MARVEL
HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPION OF SARTENA FIGHTS NEXT DAY
SARTA ARENA

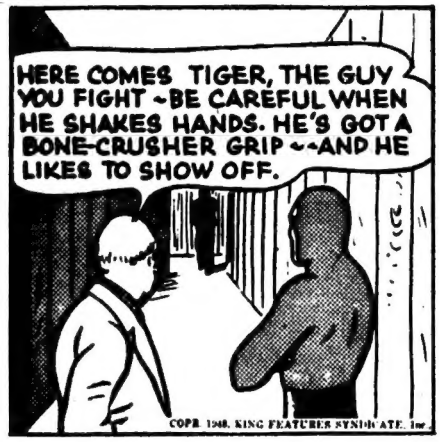

I HOPE SAM, THE PROMOTER, WILL FALL FOR THAT. IF HE DON'T, LET ME DO THE TALKIN'!
ARENA MANAGER'S OFFICE
KEEP OUT

HE DON'T LOOK LIKE THE MASKED MARVEL TO ME, JOE. YOU TRYIN' TO PULL A FAST ONE?
WHY, SAM, WHAT A WAY TO TALK!
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

HE DON'T LOOK AS BIG AND--
WHAT AN IDEA! MARVEL, SHOW SAM HOW YOU CAN PUNCH!
MASKED
CHAMPION OF FIGHTS
SARTA A
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.


WHAM

HMM- I GUESS IT'S HIM.
12-1


HERE COMES TIGER, THE GUY YOU FIGHT ~BE CAREFUL WHEN HE SHAKES HANDS. HE'S GOT A BONE-CRUSHER GRIP ~~AND HE LIKES TO SHOW OFF.
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

MASKED MARVEL, HUH? PUT 'ER THERE! HAW~HAW~
HOW ARE YOU, TIGER?
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

EE~EE~YOW WW~~!

THINK YOU'RE CUTE, HUH? WAIT'LL I GET YOU IN THE RING. I'LL WIPE THAT SMILE OFF'N YOUR FACE!
12-2

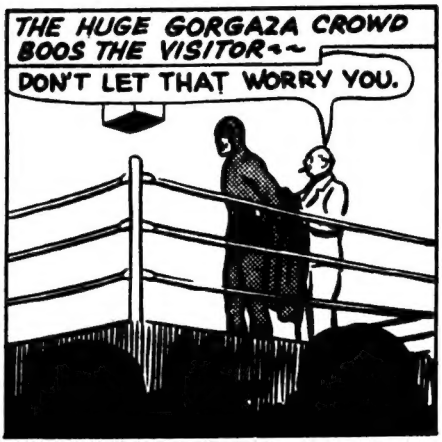
DIANA! HOW DID YOU GET HERE SO FAST?
A PRIVATE PLANE! HE AGREED TO TAKE THE MASKED MARVEL'S PLACE IN A PRIZE FIGHT IF JOE LENT ME THE PLANE~

~AND THEN ~BUT I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT, LATER. HOW~HOW IS MAMA?
WAITING FOR YOU.
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

DIANA, DARLING~ SO GLAD ~TO SEE~ ~YOU~~
MAMA~~
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

JUST SEEING YOU HAS GIVEN HER NEW STRENGTH! YOU GOT HERE JUST IN TIME
I CAN THANK HIM FOR THAT.
12-3

MASKED MARVEL CHAMPION OF BARZENA
VS. TIGER TOMA
CHAMPION of GORGAZA


THE HUGE GORGAZA CROWD BOOS THE VISITOR~~
DON'T LET THAT WORRY YOU.

~BUT A GREAT ROAR FILLS THE ARENA AS THE LOCAL CHAMPION, TIGER TOMA, APPEARS.
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

I STILL THINK THAT MASKED MARVEL'S A FAKE. IF HE MAKES A BAD FIGHT, YOU'LL BOTH GO TO JAIL!
HE'LL DO OKAY! WAIT AND SEE! (I HOPE)
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED
12-4

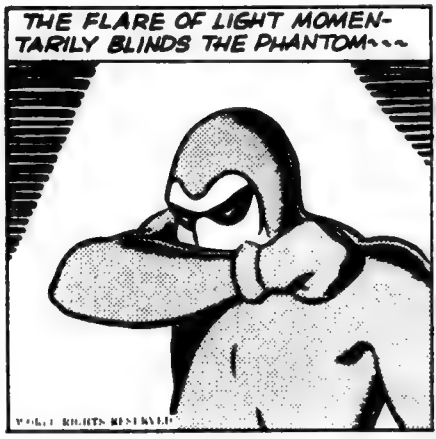
THE BARTENA CHALLENGER'S NAME IS RECEIVED WITH BOOS AND HOOTS~
IN THIS CORNER, WEIGHING 198, THE CHAMPION OF BARTENA, THE MASKED MARVEL!

A CROWD ROAR GREETS THE LOCAL FAVORITE!
WEARING WHITE TRUNKS, WEIGHING 208, THE CHAMPION OF GORGAZA, TIGER TOMA!

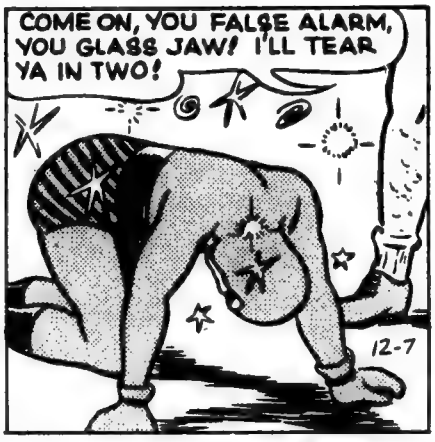
MAKE IT A GOOD, CLEAN FIGHT. YOU BOTH KNOW THE RULES. NOW BACK TO YOUR CORNERS.

TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT YOUR CORNER, "MARVEL". IT'S THE LAST TIME YOU'LL SEE IT!
12-6
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

THE BELL! ROUND ONE! THE OVERHEAD LIGHTS FLASH ON~~~
THOSE LIGHTS~~!


THE FLARE OF LIGHT MOMENTARILY BLINDS THE PHANTOM~~~

TIGER TOMA MOVES IN FAST, BEFORE THE PHANTOM CAN SEE CLEARLY~~~


COME ON, YOU FALSE ALARM, YOU GLASS JAW! I'LL TEAR YA IN TWO!
12-7

THE PHANTOM IS DAZED BY THE OVERHEAD LIGHTS, AND~~

~TIGER TOMA FLAYS HIM WITH BOTH HANDS, GIVING HIM NO CHANCE TO GET HIS BEARINGS.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

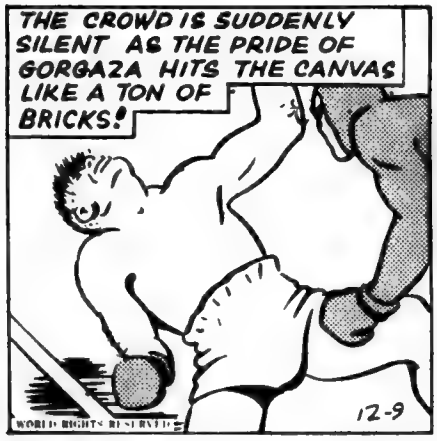
THE CROWD HOOTS AND BOOS~~
IT'S FIXED!
HE'S A SETUP! MASKED MARVEL! SOME MARVEL! HUH!

ROUND'S HALF OVER, AND HE AIN'T GOTTEN A PUNCH IN YET! HE'S A PHONY, A RINGER~~~
NOW, SAM~~ TAKE IT EASY~~
12-8

I KNEW THAT MASKED MARVEL WAS A PHONY, JOE! YOU'RE BOTH GOIN' TO JAIL! I'LL--
WAIT! LOOK!

HIS EYES ACCUSTOMED TO THE LIGHTS NOW, HE LASHES OUT--
YOU'RE NOTHIN' BUT A PUNCHIN' BAG-- UHH--

-THEN A SECOND CRUSHING BLOW ON THE JAW OF TIGER TOMA--


THE CROWD IS SUDDENLY SILENT AS THE PRIDE OF GORGAZA HITS THE CANVAS LIKE A TON OF BRICKS!
12-9

THE WINNER, BY A KNOCKOUT IN THE FIRST ROUND - THE MASKED MARVEL!
12-10

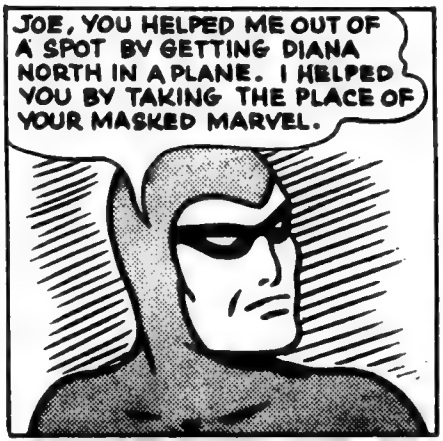
I APOLOGIZE, JOE. THAT BOY OF YOURS, THE MASKED MARVEL- HE'S SENSATIONAL!
DIN'T I TELL YA, SAM?!

SORRY I TOOK SO LONG, JOE. THE LIGHTS BOTHERED MY EYES AT FIRST.
TOOK SO LONG?! FORTY SECONDS! TWO PUNCHES! I'LL MAKE YOU WORLD'S CHAMPION!

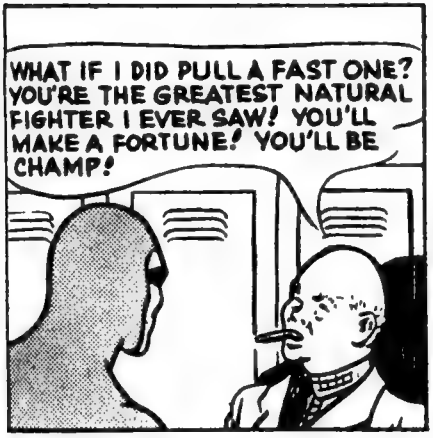
YOU FORGET I AGREED TO FIGHT ONE MATCH. I'M THROUGH.
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!

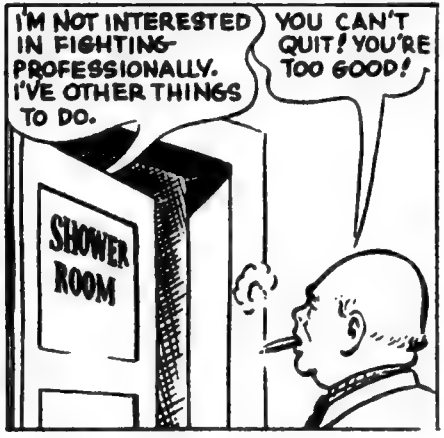
I AGREED TO FIGHT ONCE FOR YOU.
YEAH? DID YOU READ THE FINE PRINT IN YOUR CONTRACT? LISTEN.

IT SAYS - IF YOU WIN THE FIRST FIGHT, YOU'LL CONTINUE UNTIL YOU WIN THE WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP! YOU SIGNED IT!


JOE, YOU HELPED ME OUT OF A SPOT BY GETTING DIANA NORTH IN A PLANE. I HELPED YOU BY TAKING THE PLACE OF YOUR MASKED MARVEL.

WE'RE QUITS. I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WHO TRY TO CHEAT ME.
GULP-- TAKE IT EASY - GULP-- THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD--
12-11


WHAT IF I DID PULL A FAST ONE? YOU'RE THE GREATEST NATURAL FIGHTER I EVER SAW! YOU'LL MAKE A FORTUNE! YOU'LL BE CHAMP!


I'M NOT INTERESTED IN FIGHTING PROFESSIONALLY. I'VE OTHER THINGS TO DO.
YOU CAN'T QUIT! YOU'RE TOO GOOD!
SHOWER ROOM

DON'T BE HASTY. THINK IT OVER. YOU GOT EVERYTHING TO GAIN, NOTHIN' TO LOSE. I'LL WAIT FOR YOU.

DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH TILL I COME BACK, JOE. IT'S BEEN NICE KNOWING YOU. GOOD-BYE.
12-13

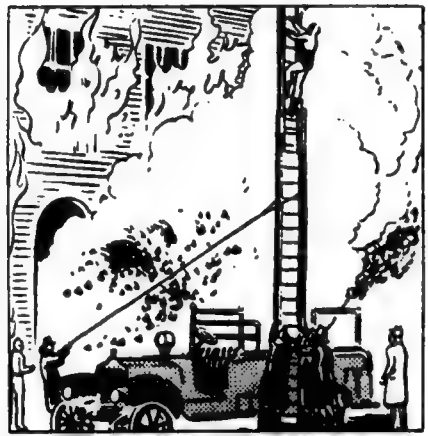
WE'VE GOT TO GET A PLANE NORTH TO SEE DIANA, FELLA~~ HEY~WHAT'S THAT? A FIRE~~~
12-14

HOSPITAL FOR SICKLY CHILDREN

EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL?
WE'VE GOTTEN ALL THE CHILDREN OUT~~EXCEPT TWO~~

POOR KIDS~ THEY'RE TRAPPED IN THE TOP ROOM. THE FLAMES CUT THEM OFF~ NO ONE CAN REACH THEM~~~

WE CAN'T PUT A LADDER AGAINST THE WALLS BECAUSE OF THE FLAMES!
I'VE AN IDEA!
12-15



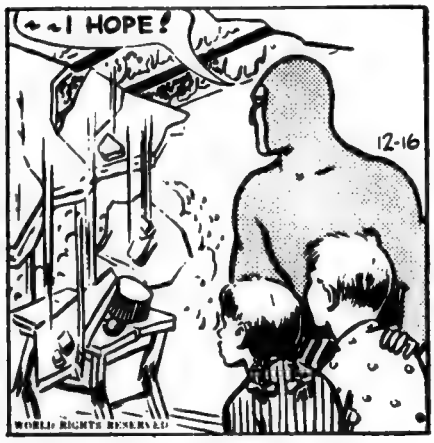
YOU CAN'T SAVE THOSE POOR KIDS YOU'RE THROWING YOUR LIFE AWAY.

THREE STORIES UP~HE LEAPS TO THE FLAMING ROOF~~~

WHO IS HE?
THE MASKED MARVEL! I SAW HIM FIGHT LAST NIGHT!

DODGING THE SPREADING FLAMES, THE PHANTOM KICKS IN A GLASS SKYLIGHT--

DON'T BE AFRAID. WE'LL GET OUT OF THIS!
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.


--I HOPE!
12-16
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

AS THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CRUMBLES INTO FLAMES--

GET THAT NET READY!

READY!
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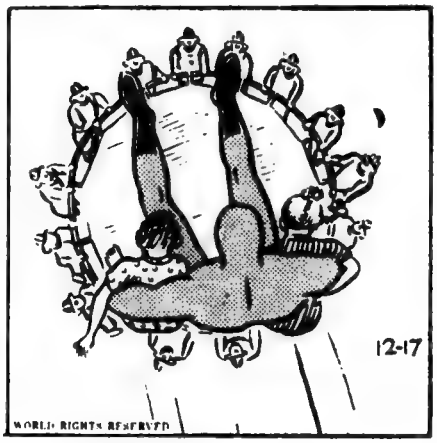
12-17
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

THE CHILDREN ARE ALL SAFE, THANK GOODNESS - BUT THE BUILDINGS ARE GONE.
CAN'T YOU BUILD NEW ONES?
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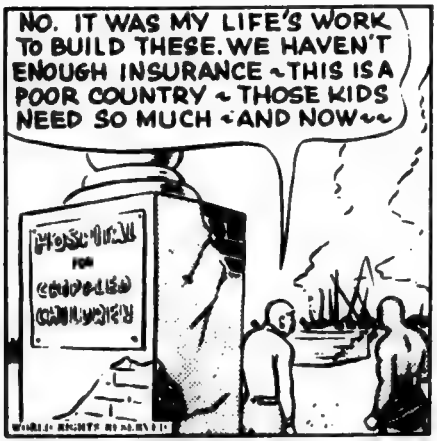
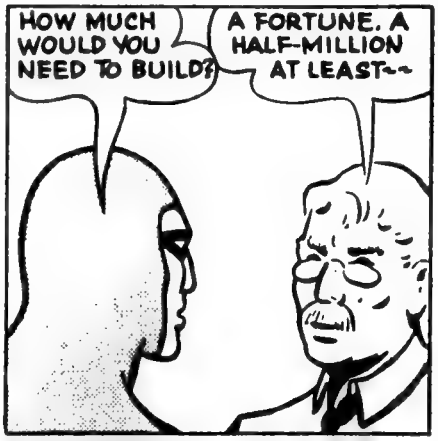
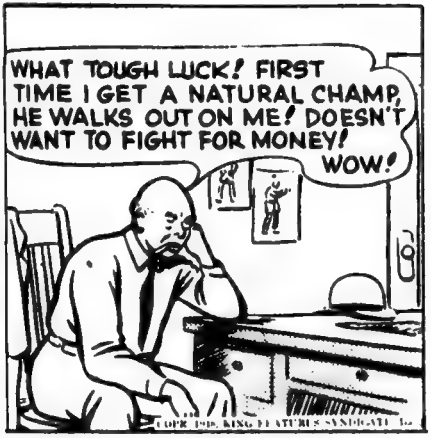

NO. IT WAS MY LIFE'S WORK TO BUILD THESE. WE HAVEN'T ENOUGH INSURANCE - THIS IS A POOR COUNTRY - THOSE KIDS NEED SO MUCH - AND NOW--
HOSPITAL FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED


HOW MUCH WOULD YOU NEED TO BUILD?
A FORTUNE. A HALF-MILLION AT LEAST--

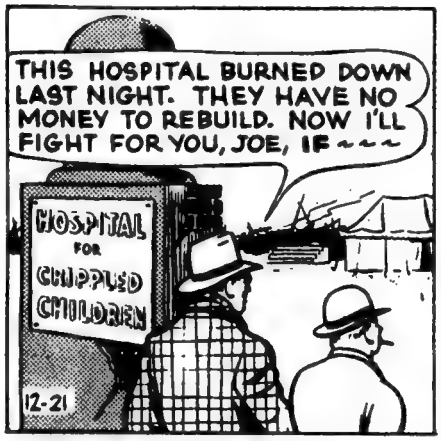
MAYBE I CAN GET IT FOR YOU--
12-18


WHAT TOUGH LUCK! FIRST TIME I GET A NATURAL CHAMP, HE WALKS OUT ON ME! DOESN'T WANT TO FIGHT FOR MONEY! WOW!

YOU'RE BACK?
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND, JOE. I MAY FIGHT FOR YOU. HOW MUCH CAN I MAKE?

A HALF-MILLION, OR EVEN A MILLION IF YOU HIT THE TOP! HA! I THOUGHT YOU'D GET SENSE! MONEY TALKS, EVERY TIME!

COME WITH ME, JOE. I'LL SHOW YOU WHY I WANT TO FIGHT.
TAKE IT EASY! I'M NOT WELDED! I COME APART!
12-20


THIS HOSPITAL BURNED DOWN LAST NIGHT. THEY HAVE NO MONEY TO REBUILD. NOW I'LL FIGHT FOR YOU, JOE, IF ~~~
HOSPITAL FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN
12-21

~~WE TURN OVER ALL MY PURSES AND HALF OF YOUR SHARE TO THIS OUTFIT.
YEAH? YOU CAN MAKE LIKE SANTA CLAUS IF YOU WANT! NOT ME!

IT'S FOR THESE CHILDREN, JOE. WHAT DO YOU SAY?
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

OKAY.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I FEEL MUCH BETTER NOW, DIANA.
THE DOCTOR SAYS THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO WORRY ABOUT, MOMMA.

SHOULDN'T HE BE HERE BY NOW?
HE HAD THAT ONE FIGHT, YOU KNOW. I READ THAT HE WON!

THAT'S BEEN A WEEK NOW! YOU CAN NEVER COUNT ON THAT MASKED ADVENTURER!
NOW, MOMMA, DON'T START THAT AGAIN.
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK OF HIM.
AND YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK! HE'S WONDERFUL! SO LET'S CLOSE THE SUBJECT.
12-22
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

IN THE SMALL, WARM COUNTRIES BELOW THE RIO GRANDE~~
12-23

~IN THE CLUBS AND STADIUMS OF THE BANANA AND COFFEE AREAS~~~
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

~A NEW FIGHTER SPRINGS OUT OF OBSCURITY TO EXCITE THE ENTIRE SPORTS WORLD~~
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

~HIS FACE AND NAME ARE UNKNOWN, BUT HE TAKES THE PUBLIC BY STORM!
THE MASKED MARVEL!

YOU CAN'T FIGHT EVERY NIGHT. YOU'RE IN THE BIG TIME NOW.
IT TAKES SO LONG.
12-24

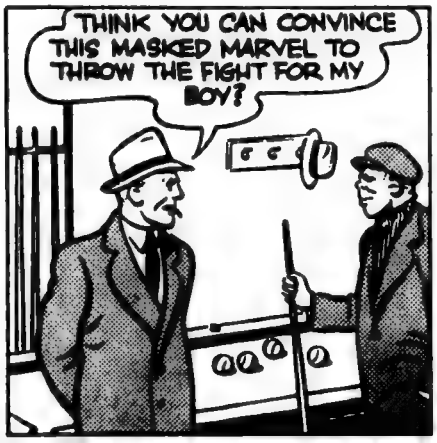
YOU GOTTA TRAIN HARD. YOUR NEXT OPPONENT IS KID BOFF, A TITLE CONTENDER. HE'S TOUGHER THAN ANYONE YOU'VE MET YET.

BY THE WAY, YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW~~ THEY'VE STARTED THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE NEW CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WITH THE MONEY YOU'VE GIVEN THEM.
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

IT'S SO LONG SINCE I'VE SEEN YOU, DARLING. BUT, BELIEVE ME, IT'S WORTH IT.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

HOW ABOUT THIS MASKED MARVEL? I HEAR HE'S A TOUGH NUT.
HE'LL BE SOFT BY THE TIME YOU SEE HIM.
KID BOFF, LEADING TITLE CON-TENDER
COPR. 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

I DON'T NEED A 'FIX', PETE. I AIN'T AFRAID OF NOBODY.
I'M YOUR MANAGER, KID. YOU HANDLE YOUR END. I'LL HANDLE MINE.


THINK YOU CAN CONVINCE THIS MASKED MARVEL TO THROW THE FIGHT FOR MY BOY?

I AIN'T NEVER MISSED, PETE. IF I CAN'T CONVINCE HIM WITH WOIDS, I GOT THIS LITTLE CONVINCER WITH ME.
12-25

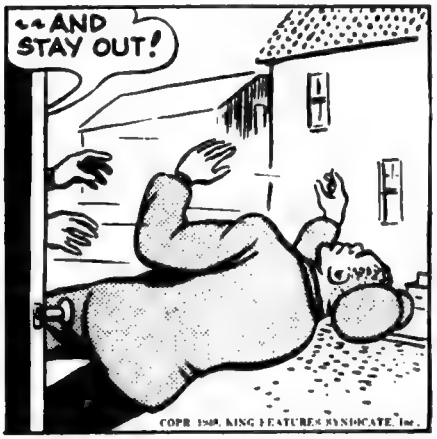
YOU ASKIN' ME TO HAVE THE MASKED MARVEL THROW THE FIGHT TO KID BOFF?
YOU HEARD ME, JOE.
12-27

BUT KID BOFF IS TOUGH. HE DON'T NEED THAT--
WE'RE MAKIN' EXTRA SURE, JOE. WE DON'T WANNA LOSE OUR SHOT AT THE TITLE!
COPR 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

BOFF DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS, BUT YOU BETTER --HEY--
GET OUT!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

YOU AIN'T GONNA FEEL LIKE FIGHTIN' NOBODY, WHEN I'M TRO' WIT' YOU!

I SAID -- GET OUT--!
12-28


--AND STAY OUT!
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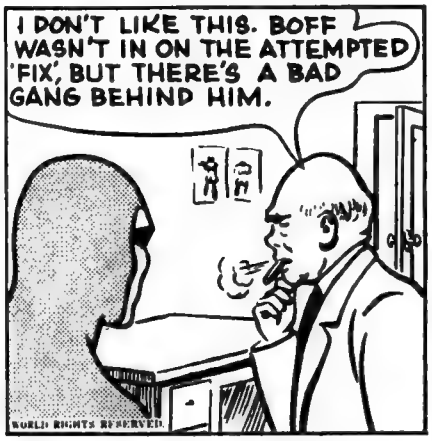

I DON'T LIKE THIS. BOFF WASN'T IN ON THE ATTEMPTED 'FIX', BUT THERE'S A BAD GANG BEHIND HIM.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

ROUGHED ME UP? HE ALMOST BROKE MY NECK!
TOUGH, IS HE? WE'LL FIX HIS WAGON!

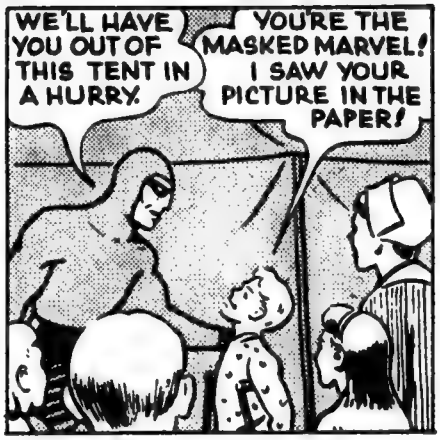
--THERE'S THE MASKED MARVEL.
GOSH-- HE'S SUPER!
12-29

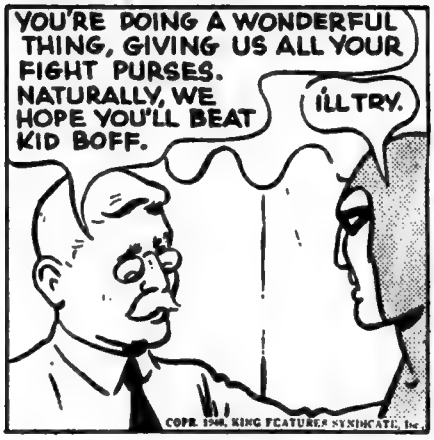
THIS ROAD WORK IS TOUGH-- (PUFF)--
TRY IT WITHOUT A BICYCLE SOMETIME.

WE'RE NEAR THE HOSPITAL GROUNDS. LET'S STOP IN AND SEE HOW THEY'RE DOING WITH THE NEW BUILDING.
COPR 1948, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

THERE HE GOES. WE'LL JUMP HIM ON HIS WAY BACK!
ROUGH ME UP, WILL HE!? WE'LL DO A JOB ON HIM!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

THE FOUNDATIONS ARE FINISHED. WE'RE GETTING STARTED ON THE STRUCTURE NOW, THANKS TO YOU.

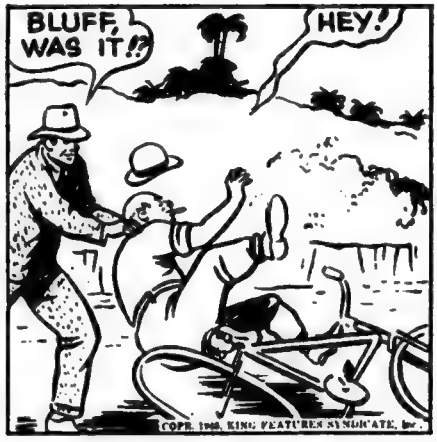

WE'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF THIS TENT IN A HURRY.
YOU'RE THE MASKED MARVEL! I SAW YOUR PICTURE IN THE PAPER!


YOU'RE DOING A WONDERFUL THING, GIVING US ALL YOUR FIGHT PURSES. NATURALLY, WE HOPE YOU'LL BEAT KID BOFF.
I'LL TRY.
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

HERE HE COMES! GET READY TO JUMP HIM!
GIVE HIM PLENTY!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED
12-30

HEARD ANY MORE FROM THAT GANG THAT TRIED TO FIX THE FIGHT?
NAW -- IT WAS JUST A BLUFF.
12-31

NOW YOU'LL GET IT, WISE GUY!


BLUFF, WAS IT!?
HEY!
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

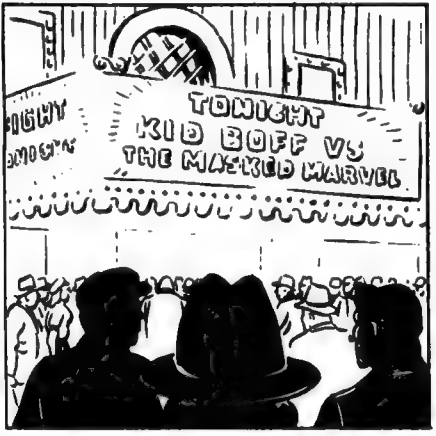
A FURIOUS BRAWL -ON THE LONELY COUNTRY ROAD--
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I DON'T KNOW YOU, BUT I CAN GUESS WHAT YOU'RE UP TO!

TELL KID BOFF'S MANAGER THAT I WILL NOT THROW THIS FIGHT, AND THAT IF THIS HAPPENS AGAIN---

--I'LL LOSE MY TEMPER AND REALLY GET ROUGH!
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

WHAT A BRAWL! WHAT A BRAWL! AND WE DIDN'T GET A DIME FOR IT!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED


TONIGHT
KID BOFF VS
THE MASKED MARVEL

KID BOFF DON'T KNOW THEY TRIED TO FIX THIS FIGHT, BUT WATCH OUT FOR HIM. HE'S TOUGH, AND HE HITS HARD!

HERE'S NEWS FOR YOU. TWO WHEELS FROM THE BIG TOWN ARE HERE TO SCOUT THIS FIGHT. IF YOU WIN TONIGHT, YOU MAY GET A CHANCE~~

~AT THE WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
VERY GOOD

I'M GLAD YOU CAME FROM THE BIG TOWN TO SCOUT THIS FIGHT. YOU'RE GONNA SEE THE NEXT CHAMP IN MY BOY, THE MASKED MARVEL.
GOOD LUCK, JOE.

THINK THE MARVEL HAS A CHANCE?
NO. HE'S TOO NEW. IT'LL BE KID BOFF. HE'S READY FOR A SHOT AT THE CHAMP.

JOE, I WANT A WORD WITH YOU.
I GOT NOTHIN' TO SAY TO YOU. THERE'LL BE NO FIX!

WE WARNED YOU, TWICE. IF THE KID LOSES, WE'RE GOING TO FIX YOU AND THE MARVEL, BUT GOOD! THIS TIME, WE WON'T MISS!

JUST GET IN THERE AND GET HIM. YOU GOT NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT.

NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT! THAT GANG'S THREATENED TO GET US AFTER THE FIGHT, IF WE WIN~~

THESE BIG SHOTS ARE HERE TO GIVE US A SHOT AT THE TITLE IF WE WIN,~ BUT IF WE DO~~THE GANG'LL BE WAITING FOR US~~

NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT? WOW! WHY DIDN'T I STAY ON THE FARM?

THE CROWD WAITS ANXIOUSLY FOR THE BIG FIGHT TO BEGIN!
BOTH MEN ARE GOOD!
IT'S ANYBODY'S FIGHT.

KID BOFF IS COCKY~CONFIDENT~~
DON'T TAKE YOUR HAT OFF, MIKE. IT WON'T LAST LONG.
YOU TELL EM, KID.

THE "MASKED MARVEL" STANDS SILENTLY, WAITING. THEN~~ THE BELL! THE FIGHT IS ON!
1-6

THE FIGHT IS ON. THE COCKY KID BOFF MOVES IN~~ BUT THE PHANTOM LANDS THE FIRST BLOW~
1-7

FOR A MOMENT, THE GREAT CROWD IS HUSHED WITH SURPRISE~~
NO~~IT AIN'T POSSIBLE~~
ONE PUNCH~~

~~THEN A ROAR SHAKES THE ARENA.
~~THE WINNER~~ THE MASKED MARVEL!

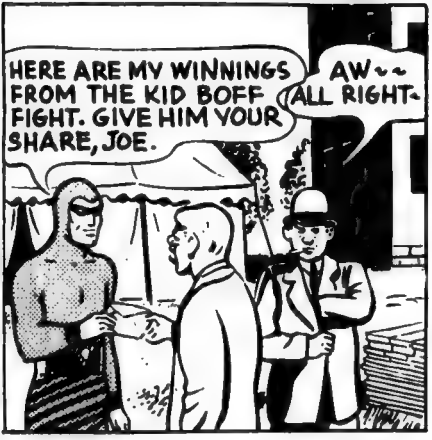
WE~~WON~UHHH~ ~ONE PUNCH~~ ~UHHH~~
LOOK~~ HE'S FAINTED!

THE HUGE FIGHT CROWD BLOWS IT'S TOP~~
MASKED MARVEL! MASKED MARVEL!

WE GONNA GET HIM, PETE?
ARE YOU CRAZY? LISTEN TO THAT MOB! HE'S A NATIONAL HERO, NOW!

JOE, YOUR MASKED MARVEL IS SENSATIONAL! WE WANT HIM TO FIGHT YOUNG HERCULES~~
~~FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD!

YOU DID IT! YOU DID IT! THE NEXT ONE'S FOR THE CROWN!
I'M HUNGRY. HOW ABOUT A SANDWICH?
1-8


HERE ARE MY WINNINGS FROM THE KID BOFF FIGHT. GIVE HIM YOUR SHARE, JOE.
AW~~ ALL RIGHT~

HOW MUCH MORE DO YOU NEED TO COMPLETE THE HOSPITAL?
A HUNDRED THOUSAND. BUT YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN SO GENEROUS~
H-10

IF I WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP, MY PURSE WILL BE ENOUGH TO FINISH THE JOB.
YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR ALL THIS DOUGH~ AND GIVING IT ALL AWAY. IS IT WORTH IT?

ANSWER YOUR OWN QUESTION, JOE. IS IT?
IT IS.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I WONDER WHY HE DOESN'T COME~ OH, HELLO, UNCLE DAVE.
DIANA, HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?

MASKED MARVEL SIGNS FOR TITLE TILT
New sensation to face Kid Hercules in Garden

~THE MOST SENSATIONAL CAREER IN RING HISTORY. WITHIN A FEW SHORT MONTHS, THE UNKNOWN MARVEL HAS BECOME THE LOGICAL CONTENDER.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

HE MUST LIKE THE FIGHTING GAME! HE'S STAYING WITH IT!
NO! IT CAN'T BE! NOT HIM! HE'S~~THE PHANTOM!
H-11

HELLO~ OH~~ ~HELLO~~

DIANA! I JUST ARRIVED, DARLING I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!

I'M~I'M BUSY NOW. I~~WELL, COME OVER LATER~IF YOU LIKE~~~

GOSH, SHE SOUNDED SO COLD.
YOU CAN'T FIGGER OUT WOMEN. THE SHOCK OF HEARIN' YOUR VOICE PROBABLY FROZE HER STIFF
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED
1-12

HELLO, UNCLE DAVE!
HELLO! YOU'VE MADE QUITE A NAME FOR YOURSELF!

HELLO, MAMA.
DON'T "MAMA" ME. SO NOW YOU'RE A PUGILIST! WHAT'LL IT BE NEXT?

DIANA~~!

AREN'T YOU GLAD TO SEE ME?
NO, I DON'T THINK SO.
1-13
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

DIANA, I DON'T UNDERSTAND
YOU FOUGHT ONE FIGHT SO I COULD GET HOME TO MAMA. I'M ETERNALLY GRATEFUL FOR THAT~~
1-14

~BUT NOW FIGHTING ATTRACTS YOU. YOU'VE TAKEN IT UP.
THAT'S NOT QUITE TRUE. BUT WHAT IF I HAVE~~?

THAT'S ALL RIGHT~FOR ORDINARY MEN. BUT YOU~YOU'RE THE PHANTOM~~THE GHOST WHO WALKS! FOR CENTURIES, YOUR ANCESTORS DEVOTED THEIR STRENGTH TO FIGHT EVIL~~
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

YOU ARE THE HEIR OF THAT GREAT TRADITION~THE PRESENT PHANTOM! AND HOW ARE YOU USING YOUR GREAT STRENGTH? TO BE A PRIZE FIGHTER!

DIANA, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
I DO, WELL ENOUGH! YOU LIKE THE GLORY OF PRIZE FIGHTING! YOU LIKE BRUTALITY~~

~THE FAME~AND THE MONEY! THAT'S FINE~FOR THE AVERAGE MAN. BUT NOT FOR YOU! I LOVED THE PHANTOM~WHO USED HIS GREAT POWER TO HELP OTHERS~~
1-15

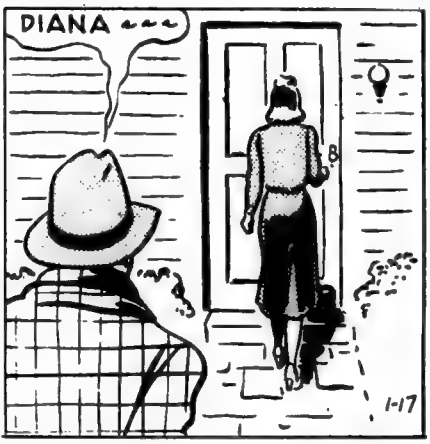
BUT NOW, THE GREAT PHANTOM, THE GHOST WHO WALKS, IS USING HIS POWER TO HELP HIMSELF! THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU~~

~THAT'S NOT LIKE THE MAN I LOVED!
BUT, DIANA~~
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

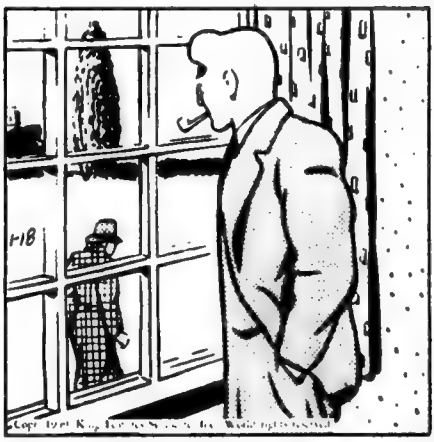
WAIT, DIANA, LET ME EXPLAIN.
WHAT IS THERE TO EXPLAIN? YOU'VE DONE NOTHING WRONG.

YOU ARE NO LONGER THE PHANTOM ~~WHOM I LOVED BECAUSE HE WAS THE PHANTOM. YOU'RE NOW THE MASKED MARVEL~~

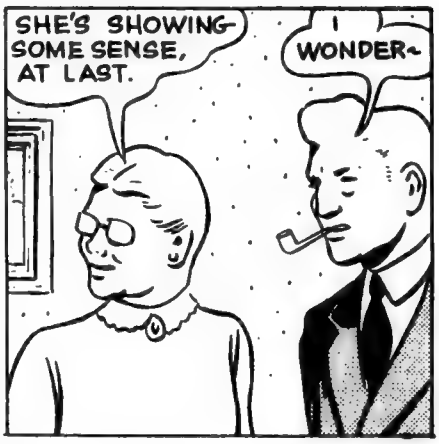
~~A PRIZE FIGHTER. THERE'S NOTHING WRONG IN THAT. IT'S A RESPECTABLE PROFESSION. BUT I'VE LOST THE MAN I LOVED.


DIANA ~~~
1-17

I'M SORRY. DIANA IS NOT AT HOME.
SHE JUST WENT IN~~OH, WELL~~


1-18

ARE YOU SURE YOU'VE DONE THE RIGHT THING, DIANA?
IT'S THE WAY I FEEL, UNCLE DAVE~ ~SOB~~


SHE'S SHOWING SOME SENSE, AT LAST.
I WONDER~

I COULD HAVE TOLD DIANA I WAS FIGHTING TO BUILD THAT CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL~~

BUT SHE DIDN'T GIVE ME A CHANCE ~~SHE PROBABLY WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT, ANYHOW.

I HAVE TO MEET KID HERCULES TOMORROW. HE'S A GREAT CHAMPION. GOSH, FELLA, AFTER ALL THIS WORK, HAS IT BEEN WORTH IT~~?

IT HAS!
1-19

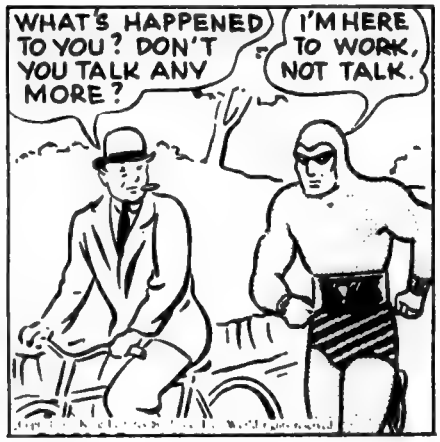
KID HERCULES, HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION.
MASKED MARVEL? I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU.
SAME HERE, HERCULES.
1-20

YIPPEE! YOU'VE SIGNED FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT! YOU MADE IT! AIN'T YOU HAPPY?
NO.

NO? WHY, YOU'VE HAD THE FASTEST RISE IN RING HISTORY! YOU'RE DOING JUST WHAT YOU WANTED TO ~~
SKIP IT, JOE.

HEY, TAKE IT EASY. THAT AIN'T KID HERCULES.

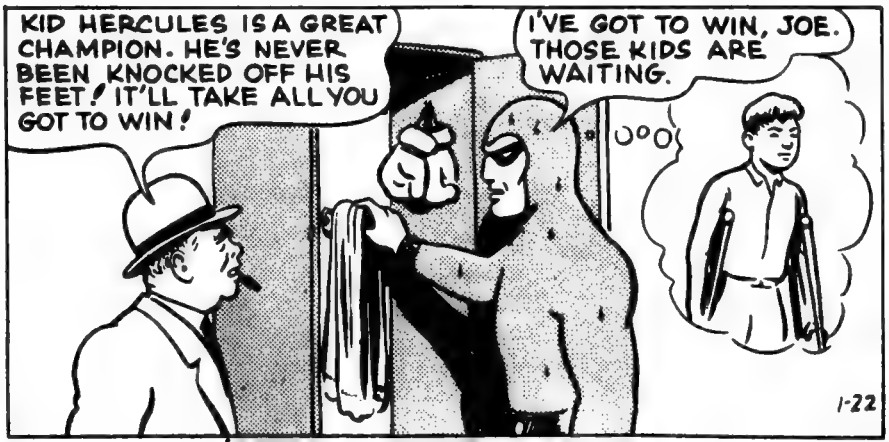
EASY, EASY ~ HE'S ONLY YOUR SPARRING PARTNER!


WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU? DON'T YOU TALK ANY MORE?
I'M HERE TO WORK, NOT TALK.

MAYBE I WAS TOO ~CRUEL. I SHOULD CALL HIM ~NO~~ HE'S CHANGED ~HE'S DIFFERENT ~ HE'S NOT THE PHANTOM ~~ ANY MORE~~
1-21

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THIS MASKED MARVEL, CHAMP. HE'S COME UP FAST, BUT HE'S TERRIFIC.

HE MUST BE, FROM ALL I'VE HEARD, BUT I'LL TAKE HIM.


KID HERCULES IS A GREAT CHAMPION. HE'S NEVER BEEN KNOCKED OFF HIS FEET! IT'LL TAKE ALL YOU GOT TO WIN!
I'VE GOT TO WIN, JOE. THOSE KIDS ARE WAITING.
1-22

CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT TONIGHT
KID HERCULES FACES MASKED MARVEL

THE CHAMPION IS INTERVIEWED.
THEY SAY HE'S TOUGH, BUT I'LL WIN. MAYBE IN THE SEVENTH.

THE CHALLENGER IS INTERVIEWED---
WHAT ROUND DO YOU THINK?
I DON'T KNOW.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO THAT FIGHT TONIGHT, DIANA?
NO. I'M GOING TO A MOVIE.
1-24

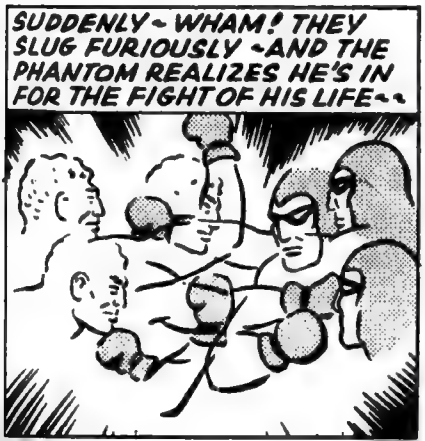
THE HUGE ARENA BULGES AT THE SEAMS - THERE'S WILD EXCITEMENT OVER THE COMING FIGHT--

A MIGHTY ROAR GREETS THE GREAT CHAMPION, KID HERCULES

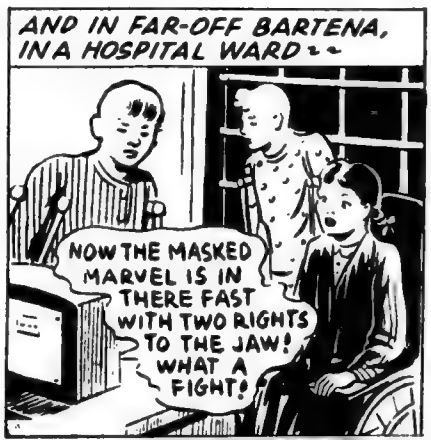
RESPECTFUL, CURIOUS APPLAUSE GREETS THE LESSER-KNOWN CHALLENGER, THE MASKED MARVEL--

YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP. YOU BOTH KNOW THE RULES. MAKE IT GOOD!
1-25

THE FIGHTERS CIRCLE EACH OTHER WARILY - THE CHAMPION IS CONFIDENT BUT CAREFUL--
1-26


SUDDENLY - WHAM! THEY SLUG FURIOUSLY - AND THE PHANTOM REALIZES HE'S IN FOR THE FIGHT OF HIS LIFE--

KID HERCULES GETS IN A HARD RIGHT TO THE HEAD

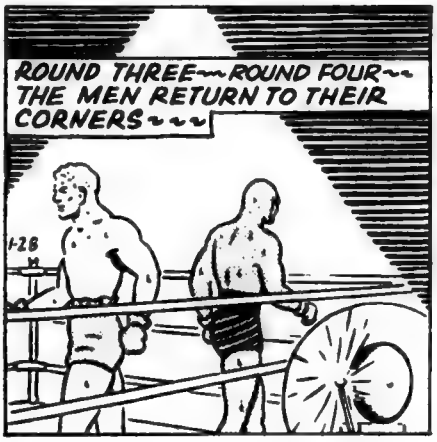

AND IN FAR-OFF BARTENA, IN A HOSPITAL WARD--
NOW THE MASKED MARVEL IS IN THERE FAST WITH TWO RIGHTS TO THE JAW! WHAT A FIGHT!

KID HERCULES AND THE MASKED MARVEL ~ A CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT THAT WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY~~
1-27

THE MASKED MARVEL TRIPS, AND SLIPS TO ONE KNEE~~ THE GREAT CROWD ROARS~~

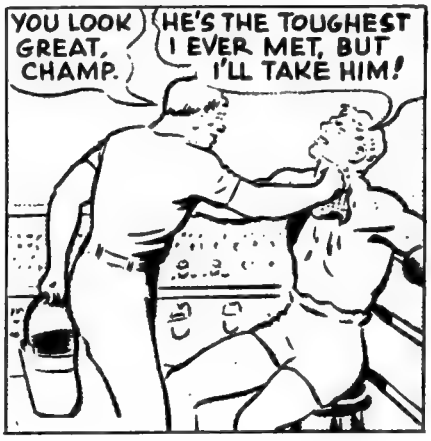
HE'S DOWN ON ONE KNEE! HE DOESN'T LOOK HURT!
GET UP~ ~GET UP~

HE'S UP AGAIN! THEY'RE TRADING PUNCHES
HURRAY!


ROUND THREE~~ROUND FOUR~~ THE MEN RETURN TO THEIR CORNERS~~~
1-28

WHAT A FIGHT! THEY HAVEN'T LET UP A MINUTE!
HERCULES HAS A SLIGHT EDGE~~

HOW YOU DOIN'?
OKAY. HE KNOWS HIS BUSINESS. A GOOD MAN.


YOU LOOK GREAT, CHAMP.
HE'S THE TOUGHEST I EVER MET, BUT I'LL TAKE HIM!

SIXTH ROUND: KID HERCULES LETS GO WITH ALL HE HAS. AND HE HAS PLENTY!
1-29

THE PHANTOM TAKES A POUNDING ~ AND MORE POUNDING ~ THE CROWD IS ROARING FOR A KNOCKOUT~~

LOOKS LIKE THE CHAMP IS IN, JOE.
FIGHT AIN'T OVER~~TILL THE FINAL BELL!

KID HERCULES IS REALLY CUTTING LOOSE NOW!
STOP IT! STOP IT!

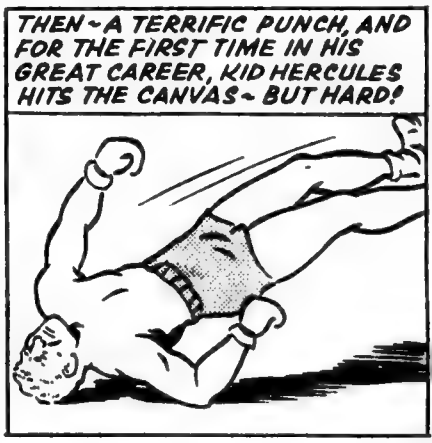
THE BELL ENDS THE FURIOUS 6TH ROUND. THE PHANTOM REELS TO HIS CORNER~~
LISTEN, NOBODY EVER LASTED THIS FAR WITH THE CHAMP~YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE ANY MORE~
1-31

I'VE NEVER QUIT A FIGHT YET.
GOOD. LISTEN, A TELEGRAM JUST CAME FOR YOU~~ FROM THOSE KIDS IN THAT HOSPITAL AT BARTENA~~

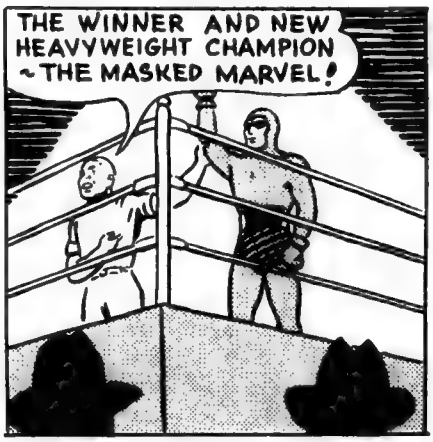
IT SAYS: "WE ARE LISTENING TO THE FIGHT. WE KNOW NO ONE CAN BEAT YOU." SIGNED, "THE GANG."
THANKS, JOE.

ROUND SEVEN! THE MASKED MARVEL MOVES IN FAST ON THE CONFIDENT CHAMPION AND~~

THERE IS A STEADY CROWD ROAR NOW, LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE, AS THE MASKED MARVEL CUTS LOOSE~
2-1

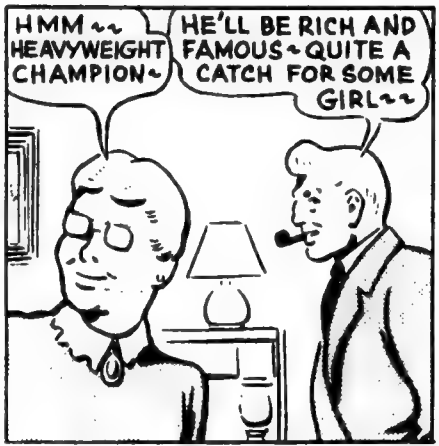

THEN~A TERRIFIC PUNCH, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS GREAT CAREER, KID HERCULES HITS THE CANVAS~BUT HARD!

THE GREAT CROWD IS STUNNED~ YOU COULD HEAR A PIN DROP IN THE SUDDEN HUSH~ AND THEN~~
O-N-E
T-W-O
T-H-R-E-E
F-O-U


THE WINNER AND NEW HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION ~THE MASKED MARVEL!

HE WON! HE WON!
I KNOW. I HEARD IT.

ARE YOU~ HAPPY?
FOR HIM, YES, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT HE WANTS. MY FEELINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED, UNCLE DAVE.


HMM~~ HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION~
HE'LL BE RICH AND FAMOUS~QUITE A CATCH FOR SOME GIRL~~

MAYBE WE'VE BEEN HASTY. WHY DON'T YOU INVITE HIM TO DINNER, DEAR?
OH, MAMA~~
2-2

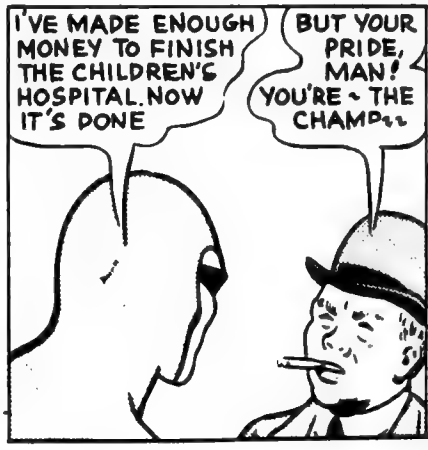
YOU'RE A GREAT CHAMP. I WANT A RETURN BOUT.
YOU'RE A GOOD MAN. IT WAS A GOOD FIGHT.

HEY, CHAMP. THIS MASKED MARVEL STUFF IS NO GO NOW! WHO ARE YOU?
MASKED MARVEL IS ENOUGH.

CLEAR OUT, BOYS. THE CHAMP WANTS TO REST. HE HAD QUITE A NIGHT.

YOU DID IT! THERE'S NO STOPPING YOU NOW! YOU'LL BE CHAMPION FOR YEARS!
I'M QUITTING, JOE.
2-3

YOU CAN'T QUIT NOW! YOU'RE CHAMPION
THAT WAS OUR AGREEMENT, JOE.
2-4


I'VE MADE ENOUGH MONEY TO FINISH THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL. NOW IT'S DONE
BUT YOUR PRIDE, MAN! YOU'RE ~ THE CHAMP~~

I HAVE OTHER WORK TO DO. CAN I GET MY PURSE TONIGHT?
SURE~~ BUT~~
SHOWER ROOM

THIS IS THE CRAZIEST~~GRRRR~~!

HERE IT IS~ A CERTIFIED CHECK~ FOR A HUNDRED GRAND~~
THANKS, JOE.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE THRU. IT'S LIKE A DREAM~~ YOU SUBBING FOR MY FIGHTER AND GOING ON TO WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP~~GOSH~

I'VE NEVER HAD A GOOD LOOK AT YOU! CAN'T YOU TELL ME~ WHO YOU ARE?
IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'VE ENJOYED IT, JOE~~

BUT YOU'RE FAMOUS NOW~ YOU CAN'T JUST WALK OUT~ WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
GOOD-BYE, JOE.
2-5

DAILY TRIUMPH
MASKED MARVEL DISAPPEARS
NEW CHAMPION VANISHES AFTER UPSET VICTORY OVER KID HERCULES

KID HERCULES IS AWAKENED BY A REPORTER--
IT CAN'T BE TRUE. HE'S THE GREATEST FIGHTER I EVER FACED.
2-7
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IT'S TRUE. HE'S QUIT, FOR GOOD. I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS. I NEVER SAW HIS FACE.
ARE YOU KIDDING? YOU, HIS MANAGER?
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

A NATION-WIDE SEARCH STARTS FOR THE MASKED MARVEL!

"Masked Marvel
champion
and his victory over Kid
Hercules made him one
of the ring greats of all
time, possibly the great-
est champion in history.
Now the Masked Marvel's

--DISAPPEARANCE, FOLLOWING HIS VICTORY, IS A MYSTERY. EVEN HIS MANAGER ADMITS HE NEVER SAW HIS FACE AND DOESN'T KNOW HIS NAME, WHY HE--"

WHY SHOULD HE QUIT NOW? HAS HE CALLED YOU, DIANA?
NO. I DON'T THINK HE WILL. IT'S PROBABLY ALL MY FAULT-
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IF I COULD ONLY FIND HIM. DARLING- WHERE ARE YOU--?
2-8
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

I WANT TO SEND A MONEY ORDER TO THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN BARTENA
YES, SIR. WHAT AMOUNT, PLEASE?
CABLES
TELEGRAMS
RADIOGRAMS

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS- (GULP)- YES, SIR! NAME OF SENDER, PLEASE?
THE MASKED MARVEL.
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ARE YOU KIDDING?
PLEASE SEND IT AT ONCE.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

HELLO? DAILY SPECTATOR? THAT MASKED MARVEL EVERY-BODY'S LOOKING FOR WAS JUST IN HERE! HE SENT A MONEY ORDER TO BARTENA! YES!
2-9

IN BARTENA, THE HOSPITAL DIRECTOR IS INTERVIEWED--
YES, THE MASKED MARVEL GAVE US ALL HIS WINNINGS TO REBUILD THIS HOSPITAL.
2-10

JOE, THE MANAGER, VERIFIES THE STORY--
YEP, HE GAVE 'EM EVERY CENT. MADE ME GIVE HALF MY SHARE, TOO. NOT THAT I MINDED ~ A GOOD CAUSE--

MASKED MARVEL MYSTERY DEEPENS: DONATIONS TO HOSPITAL REVEALED
Vanished Champion gave Entire winnings to Bartena Children's Hospital
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~AND WHEN I THINK ~ HOW I TALKED TO HIM--
SO THAT'S IT! WHY DIDN'T HE TELL ME--?
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

BUT WHY DIDN'T HE TELL YOU?
I DIDN'T GIVE HIM A CHANCE. BESIDES, I ACTED SO FOOLISHLY--

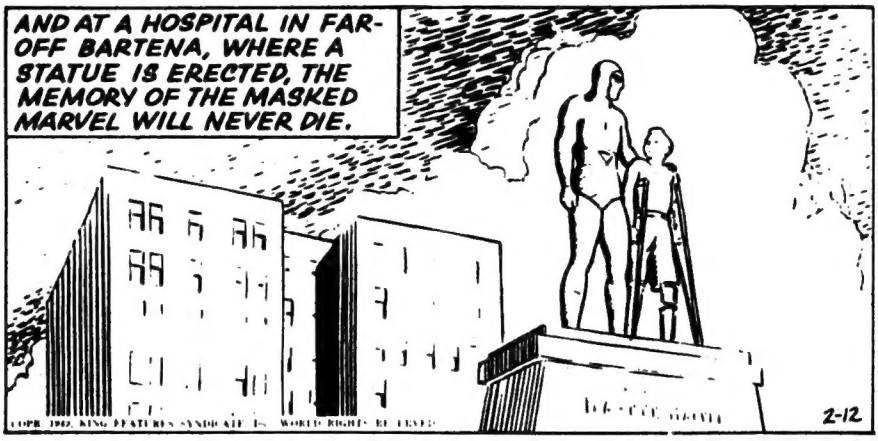
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN PROUD THAT HE WAS A GREAT FIGHTER --AND ENCOURAGED HIM. INSTEAD, I TALKED LIKE SUCH A FOOL--

HE'S GONE NOW ~ FOR GOOD--
NO, I'LL FIND HIM, SOMEWHERE-- I'VE GOT TO--
COPR. 1949, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

--BECAUSE HE'S STILL THE PHANTOM, THE GHOST WHO WALKS ~ THE MAN I LOVE --
2-11
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

THE LEGEND OF THE GREAT MASKED MARVEL GROWS AS DAYS PASS--

~A LEGEND THAT WILL CONTINUE TO GROW WITH TIME~
~HE WAS THE GREATEST CHAMPION OF THEM ALL--
I BELIEVE THAT--


AND AT A HOSPITAL IN FAR-OFF BARTENA, WHERE A STATUE IS ERECTED, THE MEMORY OF THE MASKED MARVEL WILL NEVER DIE.
2-12

ON A TRANSPACIFIC OCEAN LINER--
THAT MASKED MARVEL STORY IS A STRANGE ONE---
WHAT A FIGHTER HE WAS! I SAW THAT LAST ONE--

WHY SHOULD HE DISAPPEAR, RIGHT AFTER HE WINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP?
NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW. THERE WAS NO REASON--

NO? PERHAPS IT'S QUITE SIMPLE. MAYBE HE HAD OTHER THINGS TO DO.
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I'VE GOT TO KEEP BUSY--SO I CAN FORGET HER-AS SHE'S FORGOTTEN--ME---
2-14
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

BUT HE MUST HAVE TOLD YOU WHERE HE WAS GOING!
NO, MISS. HE WAS KINDA BROKEN UP-CAUSE YOU GAVE HIM THE COLD SHOULDER--

I COULDA TOLD HIM YOU'D BE BACK AS SOON AS HE WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP. WOMEN ARE LIKE THAT.
NOT ALL WOMEN.
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BUT HE WON'T KEEP THE TITLE. HE'S GONE FOR GOOD. SO I GUESS YOU'LL LOSE INTEREST AGAIN.
NO, JOE. I WANT TO SEE HIM AGAIN-- BECAUSE HE HAS GIVEN IT UP!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

WOMEN! IF I LIVE TO BE A HUNDRED, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIGGER THEM OUT!
2-15

I WISH UNCLE DAVE HADN'T LEFT FOR LONDON SO QUICKLY-- I NEED ADVICE.
2-16

DIANA-- WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO FIND THE PHANTOM. HE CAN BE IN ONLY ONE PLACE-- THE DEEP WOODS!

YOU CAN'T GO HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD---TO THAT JUNGLE-JUST ON THE CHANCE THAT HE MIGHT BE THERE---
I CAN-- AND MUST--
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IT'S WORTH THE CHANCE! I'VE GOT TO SEE HIM--TO BEG HIS FORGIVENESS-OH, DARLING-BE THERE!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

THE PHANTOM REACHES MORRISTOWN, ON THE BENGALI COAST--
2-17

AT THE EDGE OF THE JUNGLE--
WELCOME HOME, O GHOST WHO WALKS!
THANKS! HELLO, HERO, OLD FELLA!
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WE'RE BACK WHERE WE BELONG, DEVIL. AT LEAST YOU'RE GLAD TO SEE ME, AREN'T YOU, HERO?
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

-IT'D BE NICE -- IF DIANA WERE RIDING ALONGSIDE US! BUT I GUESS - WE'LL NEVER - SEE HER AGAIN--

DIANA ARRIVES AT THE BENGALI AIRPORT--
I WANT TO CHARTER A SMALL PLANE FOR A RIDE OVER THE JUNGLE.
YES, MISS PALMER.
2-18

I CAN TAKE YOU OVER THE DEEP WOODS, BUT YOU DON'T NEED A PARACHUTE
I'D PREFER TO WEAR ONE.

YES, THOSE ARE THE DEEP WOODS. BUT, MISS -- YOU CAN'T JUMP HERE! THIS IS THE JUNGLE! ISOLATED, PRIMITIVE, SAVAGE, WILD--
GOOD-BYE!
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THE WILDER, THE BETTER.
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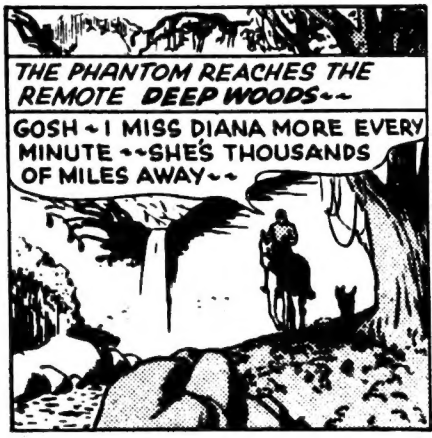
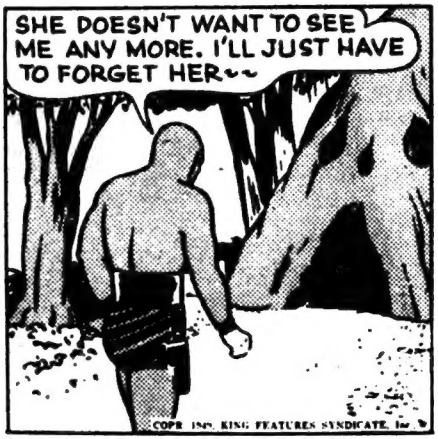

THE PHANTOM REACHES THE REMOTE DEEP WOODS--
GOSH - I MISS DIANA MORE EVERY MINUTE -- SHE'S THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY--


SHE DOESN'T WANT TO SEE ME ANY MORE. I'LL JUST HAVE TO FORGET HER--
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THEN, AS HE REACHES THE FABULOUS SKULL CAVE - AS HIS FAITHFUL PYGMIES RUSH TO GREET HIM--
WHAT THE--!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

HELLO, DARLING! WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
2-19